

## Hawaiian Gazette.

SEMI-WEEKLY.

ISSUED TUESDAYS AND FRIDAYS

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## COMMERCE AND THE CABLE.

The present quiet that reigns in the Pacific cable agitation has caused many faint hearts to become dubious over the prospect of Hawaii being brought into telegraphic communication with the world within the lifetime of the present generation. The indifference displayed by the nations about us however, is more apparent than real. The powerful forces of an increasing commerce brought about by the steady development in the Orient and the rush of traders to cultivate new fields are slowly perhaps, but none the less surely working out the problem which Hawaii alone has failed to solve.

Every new steamship line, every new ship, every additional dollar worth of goods carried across the Pacific furnishes an impressive argument to statesmen and capitalists in favor of the trans-Pacific cable. Contending financial and national interests have blocked the schemes proposed from time to time, but this cannot and will not go on many years longer. Quick communication must follow in the wake of a growing commerce. The rapid development in the international and intercolonial trade of the Pacific within the last ten years has opened the eyes of the public and led business men to give more serious thought to the Pacific cable than was devoted to it in the whole fifty years previous.

Roland Belfort writing in The Empire, of London, says of the progress of the Pacific: "Our leading statesmen, Imperial and Colonial, now fully recognize that the commercial exploitation of the Pacific is rapidly developing into a problem of supreme importance, in which the British Empire is vitally interested. In these regions must be fought, sooner or later, a battle—Pacific, let us hope—for commercial supremacy: the control of markets vast in extent, susceptible of unlimited development. The Chinese, shaking off their traditional lethargy, are tolerating the introduction of Western ideas, the construction of railways and telegraphs. Russia attaches so much importance to her position on the Pacific that she has not hesitated to extend the trans-Siberian railway in such a manner that her Pacific port of Vladivostok will ultimately connect with Moscow. Japan is adopting with feverish ardor all the principal features of Western civilization. The Australians will, in all probability, soon be federated into an Antipodean Dominion, destined to rival in power and homogeneity the sister Dominion of Canada. Who can estimate the enormous impetus that must be given to commerce by the simultaneous development of these young and vigorous colonies, these ancient but rich kingdoms, just beginning to taste the sweets of civilization?"

From this forecast, Mr. Belfort draws the attention of his readers to the necessity of closer communication between Canada and Australia, also to further cable extension to South Africa thus completing the circle of British possessions. The United States is spoken of as a possible cable competitor, but the French company that has constructed a line to New Caledonia is regarded as the most dangerous as the most formidable opponent to Great Britain.

In all the plans for "wiring the Pacific," Hawaii must be reckoned on as the mid-ocean station. Today this country is in an expectant attitude anxiously awaiting the progressive action of the United States. Today the American cable

business seems to be rolling in the doldrums of indifference or a national fear of branching out into the new policy of subsidizing a telegraph system. But this American inactivity cannot last forever. The time is soon coming when the mere force of international and commercial circumstances will compel the United States to either take a hand in the initiative cable move or withdraw its objection to the landing of a foreign cable on Hawaiian shores.

## MUST PLAN FOR THE FUTURE.

Some of the Eastern papers have given publicity to a story that Minister Damon's real object in visiting England is to prepare the way for British annexation of Hawaii in event of the failure of the American scheme. The correspondents of course, have a right to say what they please of the thoughts that engage the innermost and secret pigeonholes of Minister Damon's mind, but we have yet to hear from a reliable source that he has given any verbal demonstration of the opinions with which he is credited.

But suppose Minister Damon had expressed himself in pro-British terms what then? It is a rule among officers of the army and navy, that while they are on duty, in the garrison or pacing the quarter-deck, they shall turn over in their minds their course of action in event of a hostile attack. Why then should an observing public consider it a strange proceeding for the people of Hawaii and their public servants to ponder over their course of action in event of unexpected possibilities? View the conditions from any vantage point desired the student of the situation cannot get away from the fact that Hawaii today is "in the air." Just where it will drop an all-powerful Providence alone can say. The political and commercial stability of this country can be assured only by one of the great national powers reaching out a positive protecting arm.

We believe that the United States will fulfill the obligation of protection. We know that manifest destiny points in that direction, we know that the opinions of the people in this country are positively favorable to the completion of the American plan. We are also aware that assertions as to what the United States will do, when made from this end of the line are nothing more than assertions. They prove nothing. In view of the teaching that "God helps those who help themselves," why should the people of Hawaii be expected to wander about like dummies without a thought for the future of the country? Why should our friends refuse us the privilege of securing protection from other hands provided our enemies in the United States accomplish their desire of having the United States throw Hawaii overboard?

Minister Damon well knows, as does every individual of average common sense, that if he were to offer Lord Salisbury the Hawaiian Islands as a gift that representative of Great Britain would make no move without first consulting the United States. Minister Damon is a man who is true to his principles. He is an annexationist and all the yarns the American papers may see fit to circulate won't change his opinions. At the same time he is one of the men selected to watch over Hawaii's interests at home and, for the time being, abroad, and he will not keep his eyes shut while in England. If he sees an opportunity to advance Hawaii's commercial, financial or political interests he may be depended upon to improve it.

## JAPAN AND RUSSIA.

According to the gleanings from newspaper opinion made by the Literary Digest a struggle between Russia and Japan for su-

premacny in the Orient is not a remote possibility. The condition of affairs in Korea is far from satisfactory to Japan and it is suggested that the continued aggressive action of Russia will lead to open hostilities. Comments upon Japan's ability to cope with a great European Powers bear a marked similarity to those made previous to the opening of the war with China. Those who scoff at the probability of Japan asserting itself, compare Russian millions with Japanese thousands, they also make light of the Japanese navy when compared with the modern ships and trained fighters of Russia.

It is a strange and possibly a significant fact that the journals of England are the leaders in saying a good word for Japan. The St. James Gazette gives considerable prominence to a series of articles to the effect that the chaotic state of affairs in Korea is due to the check held upon Japan. Russia is credited with allowing the king and government of Korea to continue in their corrupt methods, while Japan would, if allowed a free hand, introduce justice and equity. Japan's real strength is said to be in its freedom from corruption.

The London Saturday Review dwells upon this point and also remarks that the character of Russia in Europe and Russia in East Asia must be dealt with separately. That Russia is a more formidable antagonist than China is admitted, "but, just as Japan overcame the latter because of the rottenness and corruption of Chinese administration, so she will have some advantage from the same cause in a struggle with the former. There is corruption in every branch of Russian administration, from the most exalted bureau to the humblest district office, and its ravages become more evident the further we get from the center of government. Everywhere one meets with scamp-work, resulting from the method of 'squeeze,' which has delayed the completion of the Trans-Siberian railway; and if Russian vessels ever come into conflict with those of another power, it will be found that the same policy has been at work to diminish the fighting capacity of the navy."

This is a view of the situation seldom taken into consideration. The intense loyalty of the Japanese place them among the best fighters. The Japanese government is already busy increasing its navy and cultivating financial friendship with Great Britain. With the improvement in naval armament that will be brought about in a year or two, together with the moral support of Great Britain, Japan could indeed muster a fighting force that would keep Russia on the move.

The bicycle has apparently reached the point where it may be regarded as one of the necessities of modern life. The growth of the bicycle trade in the United States has been marvelous and the demand shows no sign of decrease. Aside from the thousands of machines turned out for domestic use the American manufacturers have been doing a lively export business. The United States Bureau of Statistics gives the total value of bicycles exported during the year ending June 30, 1896 as \$1,898,012. This was distributed as follows: Six hundred and thirteen thousand two hundred and ninety-two dollars in shipments to the United Kingdom, \$492,685 to Canada, \$145,892 to Germany, \$108,414 to France, \$84,610 to Australia and New Zealand, \$86,867 to the Netherlands, \$49,621 to Italy, \$34,556 to Denmark, \$23,843 to Norway and Sweden, \$23,127 to Belgium, \$70,593 to the different countries of Central America, \$30,320 to the Sandwich Islands, \$27,056 to Japan, \$23,979 to the West Indies, and \$7,402 to British Africa. The value of the cycles

sent to this country will no doubt be somewhat of a surprise to our own people, as comparatively few were aware that one year's importations would reach the thirty thousand dollar mark. In view of the new lease of life the bicycle trade has taken recently, it is safe to estimate that the exports to Hawaii for the year ending June 30, '97 will be nearly twice that of the previous year. We have often remarked that the manufacturers in the United States are among Hawaii's best friends. They do not wish to see Hawaii's purchasing capacity injured by adverse legislation by the American Congress. Considering its population, Hawaii is one, if not the best patrons of American bicycle firms.

It is unfortunate indeed that any theatrical managers hoping to obtain the patronage of the people Honolulu should indulge in any statements regarding harsh treatment. This can do nothing but stir up bad feeling and injure the prospect of obtaining first class theatrical attractions. Of one thing we are sure: No theatrical organization should get the idea that any one company has a mortgage on Honolulu. Such has never been the case in the past. Why should it be in the future? If one company cannot come, get another that can. It is purely a business proposition and we see no occasion for calling each other bad names. After all is said and done the public care little whether an actor's name is Tom, Dick or Harry. The public pays its money to be amused and the organization that furnishes the material will get the coin. The Frawley's did the work well last year and got the money. We have no doubt they can do it again, but a petty wrangle will not help the matter along.

It is said that Senator Tillman sends cold chills down the backs of his brother legislators when he launches out on one of his critical speeches. This is due not so much to the fear of Senator Tillman as to the fact that he dares to ride rough shod over the time honored manners of speech of the United States Senate. Tillman's influence can hardly be put down as so thoroughly bad as the majority of his critics make out. He at least brings his fellow members in close touch with a line of thought that is uppermost in the minds of a good sized number of American citizens. It is by no means a bad plan for the class of people he represents to have an outlet for their pent-up feelings. The conservative element cannot expect, nor is it always best for them, to always have their own way in a country governed by and for the people.

The New York Tribune calls attention to the fact that Americans will all their slang expressions have not quite come up to their English brethren. In England a bicycle has become reorganized as a "bike," to ride it is "to bike" and the person who rides is a "biker." Children are taught to conjugate "I bike, thou bikest, he bikes," or "I might bike, thou mayest have biked, he will have biked." In the same way the motor-car has given rise to the "motist" who, when he travels in the car, "motes." When the English speaking citizen says "I may mote," the foreigner who is unacquainted with the vernacular might well wonder whether the Irish song and dance artist had conquered English dictionaries.

Besides being second in size to London, Greater New York will enjoy the distinction of being the strongest Lutheran city in the world, having 34 churches, 15,994 communicants and church property valued at more than \$2,000,000. This church has also one orphanage, six immigrant missions, two homes for the aged and a dea-

coness home. The gospel will be preached in the Greater City, in eight different languages—English, German, Swedish, Norwegian, Danish, Finnish, Livonian and Slavonian. If the language of the churches is any criterion, Hawaii cannot hold a candle to the greatest American city on the score of heterogeneous population.

The Boston Herald quotes "a manufacturer of advanced age and long experience" as predicting that the tariff bill will not be passed before the first day of October. This is not a happy outlook for Hawaii or the United States for that matter. On the other hand, at the end of the third day's tariff discussion in the Senate, Senator Vest called attention to the fact that more work had been done in three days than had been accomplished in any previous tariff debate in three weeks. The predictions on the tariff seem to be regulated largely by the personal hopes of the prophet or the condition of his digestive apparatus. After all it is a good deal like a horse race. You put up your money and await results.

With all their political troubles the people of the Transvaal are also suffering from the manipulations of "gold brick" promoters who usually cluster about boom countries. An American engineer reports an enormous amount of swindling carried on in the Transvaal mines. Costly machinery is imported from America and put up before there is a certainty that the mine will pay. This is simply another proof that a good proportion of the people of the world are gullible, and years of experience seems to accomplish but little. The great desire to get something for nothing is as prominent in the make-up of average humanity as it ever was.

While the Japanese are often spoken of as imitators, the soldiers of the war with China may, if reports are correct, be credited with being decidedly original. It is said they have petitioned their government to erect a memorial in honor of the horses which helped to win the Japanese victories. The object of this silent witness to the usefulness of equines is to encourage patriotic men to give more attention to horse-breeding. This is only another evidence that the Japanese are bound to go ahead in spite of the fact that some of their methods may elicit a passing smile from Europeans.

The questions put to Commissioner Fitzgerald regarding Hawaii's contract labor law suggest the advisability of putting an end to further discussion, by wiping the law from the statute books. The day has passed when any reasonable excuse for its existence can be given. The law is practically a dead letter and the opinion is universal that this country has no more use for this vestige of civilized barbarity.

American Minister Sewall's message to this country is just what was hoped for and we may also add expected from the McKinley administration. It is an assertion that the traditional policy of the United States will be continued, that Hawaii need have no fear of being thrown an outcast upon the tender mercies of the world after these many years of friendship.

## CLOSING EXERCISES.

Gymnasium at Y. M. C. A. Crowded Last Night.

The floor and gallery of the Y. M. C. A. was crowded to its capacity last night to witness the closing exercises in the gymnasium.

Since Secretary Coleman's arrival in the city he has organized the gymnasium to full running capacity and has had regular class work for the past two months, the attendance has been very good and regular. Among the junior members and the young men too.

As is usual with the associations elsewhere, it was considered advisable by the Physical Department Committee to discontinue the regular work in

the gymnasium during the summer and turn the attention to out-of-door sports. The Physical Committee are to meet today at noon to make arrangements for organizing a track team.

The exhibition last night was a presentation of the representative work of the gymnasium. First on the program was a bar bell drill by the Junior department with Master Seymour Hall leader, and was executed in a very good and pleasing manner and was conclusive evidence that the gymnasium is of benefit to the boys. For this drill and the dumb bell drill by the young men, W. L. Fletcher the Association pianist officiated at the instrument and helped to make the drills very inspiring. The dumb bell drill was an example of the body building work and showed an all-round and very profitable exercise. Six of the Junior members contested in an Indian club race, that was quite exciting. Master Walston was the champion of the evening.

The most skillful exhibition of the evening was the performance on the horizontal bar, as executed by Mr. Sam Johnson, Arthur Giles and Bonnie Clark. Quite a number of performances were executed that showed strength and accuracy in muscular judgment. It also showed very good training and was another evidence of the high standard of the work that has been done in the Y. M. C. A. gymnasium. As a concluding number, four of the young men played a game of hand ball and showed to good advantage, the benefit and pleasure of the new sport.

## ILLUSTRATED MAGAZINE.

Very Good Pictures But Wants Were Long.

When the Hawaiian Opera House opened Saturday night it looked very much as though the subscription list to the "Illustrated Magazine" ("Manao Noeua"), would not be large enough to pay for getting it out, and as is the case with many sure-enough publications, the promoters would have to depend upon the advertisers to make up the deficiency. But after two or three pages had been turned, new names were added to the subscription list until it was quite full.

The magazine is interesting, but like many Eastern publications, it is long on illustrations and short on text. Particular attention is given to the advertising columns, so that they were quite as interesting, and amusing in some instances, as the body of the book. A suggestion to the publishers, to the effect that the pages be cut, so that they might be the more easily and quickly turned, will not be amiss. A wait of five or eight minutes is long enough under any circumstances, but when this is aggravated by an orchestra of violins and horns sawing and blowing out compositions that have been played so many times in Honolulu as to become execrable, the wait between the illustrations are painful.

There is not a fault to be found with the illustrations; artistically arranged and executed, in some instances, with a superabundance of action and life-like genuineness, they were indeed pleasing to the eye. Take it all and all, the promoters of the "Manao Noeua" are to be congratulated on the success of their venture.

## A Long—Henshall.

Mrs. Helen A. Long and William A. Henshall were quietly married by Rev. D. P. Birnie at the residence of the bride's mother, Nuuanu street, last evening. The ceremony was private, only a few very near friends, besides the immediate family of the bride, being present. After the ceremony a reception was held.

## F. P. Hastings Very Low.

The Belic brought the news that a telegram from Washington had been received in San Francisco on the day before the departure of that steamer to the effect that Frank P. Hastings was very low.

The Lyceum has been refitted in very neat and comfortable style, and was used again for the first time on Sunday.

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